

1 **End the Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and**
2 **Bring Our Troops and Tax Dollars Home**

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4 **WHEREAS** the financial resources available for use by governments at the local,
5 county, state and federal levels in the United States are limited;

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7 **WHEREAS** the U.S. Congress has appropriated over one trillion dollars for the wars in
8 Iraq and Afghanistan since 2001, most of it borrowed against our national debt;

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10 **WHEREAS** according to the National Priorities Project, the taxpayers of Washington
11 State are to date collectively paying or have become indebted for over \$28.6 billion in
12 total cost of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan since 2001;

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14 **WHEREAS**, taxpayers in State of Washington will pay \$2.4 billion for proposed
15 Afghanistan war spending for FY2011;

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17 **WHEREAS** the Washington State government is facing a \$550 million shortfall in this
18 year's state budget, and nearly \$5 billion shortfall in the 2011-13 budget, while at the
19 same time federal budget cuts are expected to reduce funding in Washington State for
20 college Pell grants, low income housing, senior and youth centers, job training, Puget
21 Sound clean-up and salmon recovery, flood control, transportation, and veteran
22 housing vouchers; and

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24 **WHEREAS** over 4,400 U.S. troops have been killed in Iraq, over 1,140 U.S. troops have
25 been killed in Afghanistan, and over 39,000 U.S. troops have been wounded in both
26 conflicts according to the Department of Defense, and hundreds of thousands of
27 civilians have been killed in these conflicts and the ongoing warfare poses great
28 physical danger to the people of the nations of Iraq, Afghanistan and Pakistan;

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30 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democrats encourage
31 public discussion and dialogue about the cost of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan to
32 our community; and

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34 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we call on U.S. Senator Patty Murray
35 and U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell, and all Washington State federal legislators to oppose
36 further funding of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and urge them to take leadership in
37 the Congress to bring our troops safely home and redirect our federal tax dollars to the
38 pressing educational, employment, health, housing, nutritional, infrastructure, energy,
39 and environmental needs of our state and country.
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42 Submitted by the 40th Legislative District Democrats to the Washington State
43 Democratic Central Committee for consideration at its April 30, 2011 meeting in
44 Wenatchee. (Date Submitted 3/20/2011)

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46 The WSDCC Resolutions Committee "AMENDED THIS RESOLUTION AND
47 RECOMMENDED A PASS" at its April 30, 2011 meeting in Wenatchee.

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49 The WSDCC "PASSED" this resolution at its April 30, 2011 meeting in Wenatchee.